

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

generating a user identity value associated with a user identity;
storing the user identity value;
generating a registry security value associated with a system registry;
storing the registry security value; and
authenticating the system registry after reading the system registry,
wherein authenticating includes at least one chosen from the group
consisting of
generating a new user identity value associated with a user identity
and comparing the new user identity value to the stored user
identity value, and
obtaining an input responsive to a program attempting to access the
system registry, the input allowing processing to continue.

2. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein generating a user identity value associated with a user identity comprises inserting at least one of the username and password in a one-way function to obtain the user identity value associated with the user identity.

3. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein generating a registry security

value associated with a system registry comprises:

concatenating system registry information; and
inserting the concatenated system registry information in a one-way
function to obtain the registry security value.

4. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 3, wherein concatenating system registry information comprises concatenating at least one of system registry files and system registry handle keys.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein authenticating the system registry after reading the system registry further comprises:

generating a new registry security value;
comparing the new registry security value with the stored registry security value; and
allowing processing to continue if the new registry security value is equal to the stored registry security value.

6. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1 further comprising modifying the system registry in response to being provided the user identity value and the registry security value.

7. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

detecting an attempt to change a system registry;
generating a user identity value associated with the user identity;
comparing the user identity value with a stored user identity value; and

modifying the system registry in response to being provided the user identity value equal to the stored user identity value.

8. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 7, wherein modifying the system registry in response to being provided the user identity value comprises modifying the system registry in response to an application program providing the user identity value.

9. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 7, wherein detecting an attempt to change a system registry comprises detecting an attempt to write to the system registry.

10. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising:

a machine-accessible medium including instructions that, when executed by a machine, causes the machine to perform operations comprising

generating a user identity value associated with a user identity;

storing the user identity value;

generating a registry security value associated with a system registry;

storing the registry security value; and

authenticating the system registry after reading the system registry,

wherein authenticating includes at least one chosen from the group

consisting of

generating a new user identity value associated with a user identity

and comparing the new user identity value to the stored user

identity value, and

obtaining an input responsive to a program attempting to access the
system registry, the input allowing processing to continue.

11. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture as in claim 10 wherein instructions generating a user identity value associated with a user identity comprises further instructions for inserting at least one of the user's username and password in a one-way function to obtain the user identity value associated with the user identity.
12. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture as in claim 10 wherein instructions for generating a registry security value associated with a system registry comprises further instructions for
concatenating system registry information; and
inserting the concatenated system registry information in a one-way function to obtain the registry security value.
13. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture as in claim 12, wherein instructions for concatenating system registry information comprises further instructions for concatenating at least one of system registry files and system registry handle keys.
14. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture as in claim 10 wherein instructions for authenticating the system registry after reading the system registry comprises further instructions for
generating a new registry security value;
comparing the new registry security value with the stored registry security

value; and

allowing processing to continue if the new registry security value is equal to the stored registry security value.

15. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture as in claim 10 further comprising instructions for modifying the system registry in response to being provided the user identity value and the registry security value.

16. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture comprising:

a machine-accessible medium including instructions that, when executed by a machine, causes the machine to perform operations comprising

detecting an attempt to change a system registry;

generating a user identity value associated with the user identity;

comparing the user identity value with a stored user identity value;

and

modifying the system registry in response to being provided the user identity value equal to the stored user identity value.

17. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture as in claim 16, wherein instructions modifying the system registry in response to being provided the user identity value comprises further instructions for modifying the system registry in response to an application program providing the user identity value.

18. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture as in claim 16, wherein instructions for detecting an attempt to change a system registry comprises further instructions for detecting an attempt to write to the system registry.

19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a bus;

a data storage device coupled to said bus; and

a processor coupled to said data storage device, said processor operable to receive instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to

generate a user identity value associated with a user identity;

store the user identity value;

generate a registry security value associated with a system registry;

store the registry security value; and

authenticate the system registry after reading the system registry, wherein the authentication includes at least one chosen from the group consisting of

generating a new user identity value associated with a user identity

and comparing the new user identity value to the stored user

identity value, and

obtaining an input responsive to a program attempting to access the

system registry, the input allowing processing to continue.

20. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as in claim 19, wherein the processor operable to receive instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to generate a user identity value associated with a user identity comprises the processor to insert at least one of the username and password in a one way function to obtain the user identity value.

21. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as in claim 19, wherein the processor operable to receive instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to

generate a registry security value associated with a system registry
comprises the processor to concatenate system registry information; and to
insert the concatenated system registry information in a function to obtain
the registry security value.

22. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as in claim 21, wherein the processor to concatenate system registry information comprises the processor to concatenate at least one of system registry files and system registry handle keys.

23. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as in claim 19 wherein the processor operable to receive instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to authenticate the system registry after reading the system registry further comprises the processor to

generate a new registry security value;
compare the new registry security value with the stored registry security value; and
allow processing to continue if the new registry security value is equal to the stored registry security value.

24. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as in claim 19 wherein the processor operable to receive instructions which, when executed by the processor, further causes the processor to modify the system registry in response to being provided the user

identity value and the registry security value.

25. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

- a bus;
- a data storage device coupled to said bus; and
- a processor coupled to said data storage device, said processor operable to receive instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to
 - detect an attempt to change a system registry;
 - generate a user identity value associated with the user identity;
 - compare the user identity value with a stored user identity value;
 - and
 - modify the system registry in response to being provided the user identity value equal to the stored user identity value.

26. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as in claim 25, wherein the processor operable to receive instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to modify the system registry in response to being provided the user identity value comprises the processor to modify the system registry in response to an application program providing the user identity value.

27. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as in claim 25, wherein the processor operable to receive instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to detect an attempt to change a system registry comprises the processor to detect an attempt to write to the system registry.

28. (New) A method as in claim 1 wherein authenticating the system registry after reading the system registry further comprises:

allowing processing to continue if the new user identity value is equal to the stored user identity value.

29. (New) An article of manufacture as in claim 10 wherein instructions for authenticating the system registry after reading the system registry comprises further instructions for

allowing processing to continue if the new user identity value is equal to the stored user identity value.

30. (New) An apparatus as in claim 19 wherein the processor operable to receive instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to authenticate the system registry after reading the system registry further comprises the processor to

allow processing to continue if the new user identity value is equal to the stored user identity value.